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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of: Muthiah, et al.

Serial No.: 09/982,342

Filed: October 18, 2001

For: HIGHLY ABSORBENT PRODUCTS )  
 AND PROCESS FOR MAKING )  
 SUCH PRODUCTS )

Group Art Unit: 1771

Examiner: Norca L. Torres-Velazquez

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

OCTOBER 27, 2004

Signature

 10/27/04  
 Date of Signature
AMENDMENT

## MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the outstanding Office Action of August 31, 2004.

In such Office action, claims 1-24, 50-54, 58-63, 69-72, and 75-80 were withdrawn from consideration. In addition, claim 33 was objected to. Claims 25-34 and 36-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; claims 25-37, 39-40, 44, 47-48, 55-57, 64-67, 73, and 81-87 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102; claims 25-27, 37-38, 73, and 81-83 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102; and claim 38 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration of the above objection and rejections in view of the following amendments to the claims and accompanying remarks.

Please amend the instant application as follows: